

12/30/2021 Written redistricting testimony for Kansas 2022 **congressional**, and then Kansas **state** districts after census data was made available:

My name is Carol Fields residing in the far NE corner of Johnson County in Roeland Park. While I do not represent any particular group, I am an active volunteer or participant in several NE Johnson County, some Wyandotte/KCK, mid Plaza and downtown KC MO near-the-borders-lines organizations. That includes the democratic privilege of learning via Zoom about ideas for maps of redistricting. I have helped design communities of interest with the League of Women Voter map manipulating experts.

As population changes do not allow us to keep all of Wyandotte and Johnson County in 1 district, I think the **1<sup>st</sup> map below, (Proposed CD 3 Map)** created by the Voter Rights Network of Wyandotte County and the League of Women Voters, a map which leaves out more rural towns or townships like Aubrey and Spring Hill & Edgerton and most of Desoto, and Gardner is the best way to make district 3<sup>rd</sup> boundary changes keep good consistent representation. It is not democratic to split up the two counties, dramatically changing resident voting options, and breaking up communities of like interest to supposedly protect more sparsely populated rural areas' interests. They too will be better represented by being together into more continuing and contiguous districts, rather than being combined with more metropolitan areas of the state into other districts. That allows most populated contiguous areas of Wyandotte and Johnson County to act as we are: one in so many ways--a part of the greater KC--in transportation, shopping, some utilities & large and small business services, radio & TV stations and other entertainment. Our population density, unlike any area this size in Kansas, means we share views on quality of life and community, that are often alike and different than most of the state.

To be more specific: While I live in Johnson County now, I lived 5&1/2 years in Wyandotte and have worked there the majority of my careers. From my home in small Roeland Park I drive down County Line for over half of my trips out. I take walks and get my hair cut on the Wyandotte side of it. When I go west on I-35, I go through Wyandotte. Even in this past year, I volunteer in Overland Park & Merriam, as well a Roeland Park & KCK. My doctors & hospital are in KCK and have other sites in both counties including Overland Park, Prairie Village, Shawnee and Westwood. I know the Roeland Park core of stores (Price Choppers, Aldi, Walmart, Lowes) are major-portion of Wyandotte shoppers, while I shop at Strasser's Hardware in KCKs. Friends in RP use both the Argentine and Jo Co libraries.

At least one town -Lake Quivira- even straddles the county line.

The airport in Gardner serves metro commerce, as do the railroad hubs in KCKs with the light industry surrounding part of them in KC.

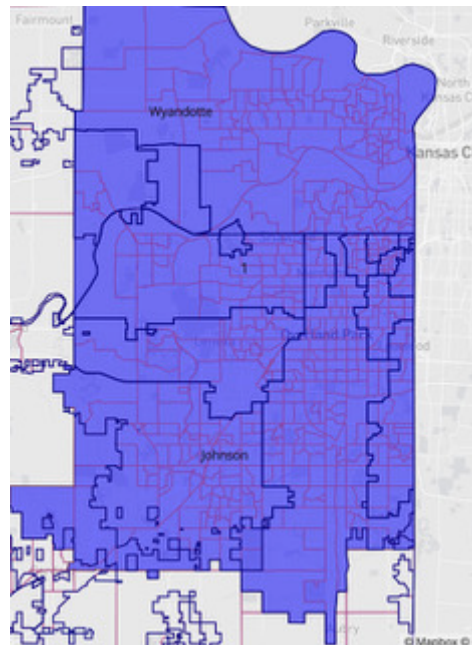
If WyCo is split into districts, it most likely will result in discrimination against the urban poor and people of color, who need better, not less representation. Also, if Johnson is split, urban dwellers will be underrepresented in Washington,D.C. as they already are with the favoring of rural areas via 2 Senators per state. We have a history of sharing a congressional district.

Of the 2 maps I have reviewed for changes to my *Kansas Senate* district 7, I support the 2<sup>nd</sup> map, below also created by the Voter Rights Network of Wyandotte County and League of Women Voters, which only trims off a few edges in the SE and NW, keeping the contiguous and compact smaller NE JoCo towns together and leaves a substantial part of Overland Park (which has too large a population and has noncontiguous parts that cannot be all in one district. This provides consistency keeping most voters from being in new communities of less common interests.

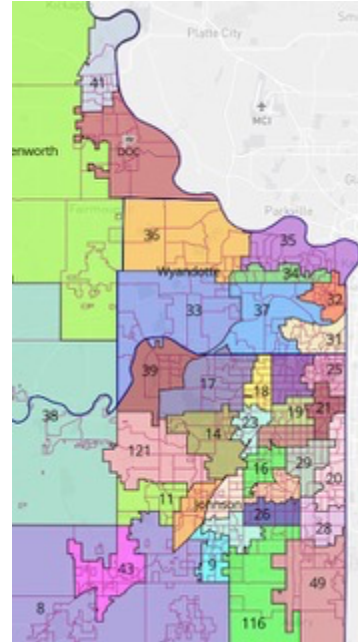
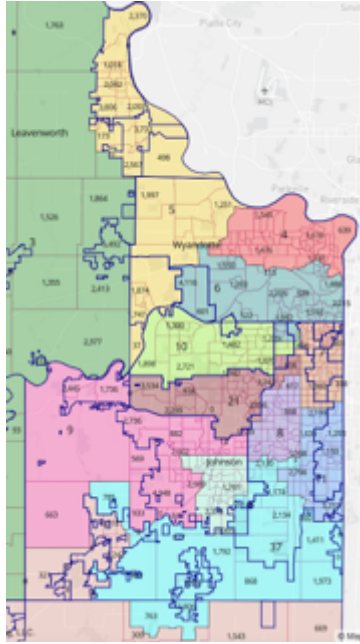
Again for the *Kansas House* district, I want maps to change voter options as little as they can, still representing communities of interest. But I also support making Prairie Village basically a district in itself. So for my own district 25 It makes sense to cut out some of Prairie Village and add some areas to the west as in the attached map. I think this map is also consistent with my concern that the communities just north of me in Wyandotte County be split as respectful of community areas as possible.

Please make legislative session Redistricting Committee hearings available to Kansas residents via Zoom or at least YouTube and provide opportunity for citizen comments as maps are proposed with timely notice to allow feedback--not just a few hours. That is, I ask committee leaders, especially, and members to be transparent, fair, and democracy promoting--not partisan.

### Proposed CD 3 Map



Proposed Kansas Senate district map      Proposed Kansas House district map  
for my area of the state



Carol Fields, 2cofced@gmail.com, 913-236-5914 (LL)  
3535 W 47<sup>th</sup> Place, Roeland Park, KS 66205 (ward 2)